

HORRORS OF FLOOD TOLD BY WITNESS.

Great Wall of Water Swept All Before It and Left Death Behind—Terrible Situation of Survivors.

Bluefield, W. Va., June 25.—An eye-witness of the flood which devastated Keystone has arrived here. He was a guest of the National Hotel—one of the few buildings which escaped destruction.

In speaking of his experience he said the town was built along one narrow street, which followed the stream fully a mile.

Because of limited space the houses on one side stood on piles or walls over the Elkhorn, and on the other against the mountains.

At daybreak Saturday the people realized great danger. The narrow wall gradually became filled with a raging torrent, sweeping away small buildings and causing a scramble to the mountain side.

More than a hundred persons remained to look after women and children. When the railway bridge was finally swept away the flood poured down the narrow street, carrying many persons with it.

Eight lives are known to have been lost. From the hotel a life-line was thrown to the building opposite, and then to the rescuers on the hillside. All those in the hotel and those fortunate enough to reach it were thus enabled to reach a place of safety.

DEATH LIST MAY EXCEED 100.

(Special to The Evening World.)

BLUEFIELD, W. Va., June 25.—Late reports from the flood-swept valley of the Elkhorn place the number of dead at between 100 and 150, while the property is variously estimated at from \$500,000 to \$2,000,000. Railroad officials are inclined to minimize the destruction of property, holding to the smaller figures, while coal operators and others insist that their losses have been enormous.

As a matter of fact, there is no definite information at hand on which to base accurate estimates of loss of life or property. As far as the work of rescue and relief has progressed, the conditions have been found to be appalling enough, and the greater part of the stricken area has not yet been penetrated.

All of the news has been brought by foot couriers or survivors of the flood. Trains have been run as far as Ennis, which is practically the mouth of the devastated section, and telegraph wires have been repaired to that point.

Relief Trains Running.

The work of establishing railroad communication is being pushed with vigor. The relief trains are running between the city and the coal district and every effort is being made to relieve the suffering and destitution. The latest estimate is that it will take ten days to repair the track.

Information from the Tug River district is to the effect that the damage to the coal operations in that region is not

THIS LANDLORD FOSTERS GENIUS.

BOMBARDED BAPTIST CHURCH

"Al" Taylor, with a New Field Gun, Had the Time of His Life.

Camille Roberts, proprietor of a fashionable boarding-house at No. 47 West Fifty-seventh street, was complainant in a summons case in the West Side Court to-day against Mrs. Virginia Vaughan, who he charged with owing him a board bill of \$61.15.

Mrs. Vaughan, who has white hair and a remarkably sweet face, is an author. Roberts admitted that he trusted Mrs. Vaughan, taking chances on getting paid from the royalties of a novel which she was writing.

"She came to my house two years ago," Roberts told Magistrate Deuel, "and after paying me promptly for a couple of weeks she told me that she was writing a great novel and would meet her board bills with a stand-off until it was published. Then she said she would pay me handsomely."

"I know that she is a brilliant woman and will some day be a great success. I gave her all the credit she wanted and I'm still willing to do so, but it made me mad to have her leave my house in a surreptitious manner and go to No. 123 East Fifty-eighth street."

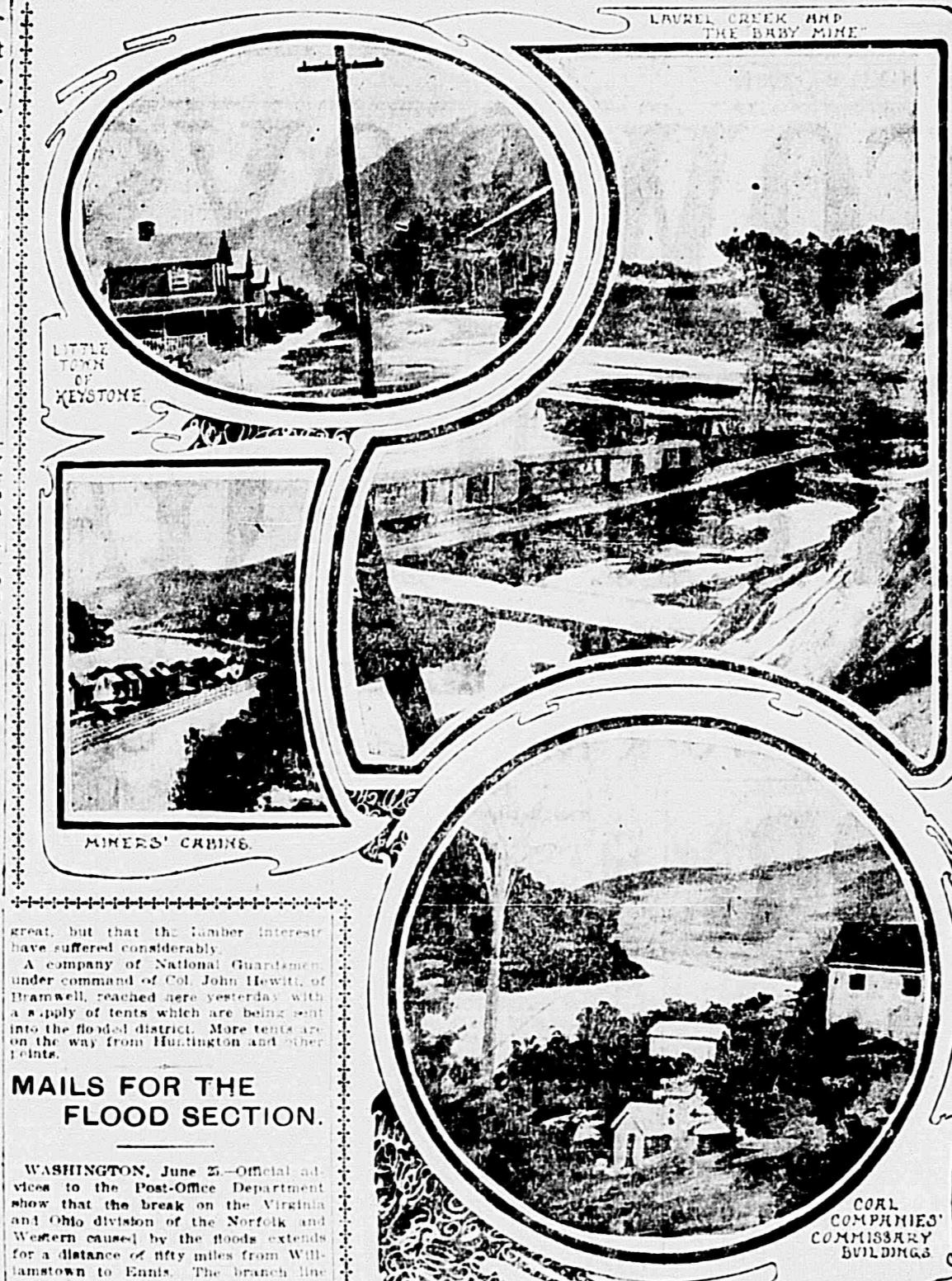
In a tremulous voice Mrs. Vaughan said to the Magistrate "I have written many poems and essays which have been published. For two years I have been engaged upon a great work, my masterpiece. It is called 'Goliad Trevallion,' and is a great work. The Century people read the manuscript and said it was magnificent, but that it would have to be cut down and revised."

"Mr. Roberts was amply secured for his board bills. I had assigned to him the right to the first payments of profits when the work was published. Now I have been ruthlessly arrested, and I am afraid that this trouble will send my great work to oblivion."

The case was continued until this afternoon. In default of bail Mrs. Vaughan was locked up.

"When this case gets out I don't think that Mr. Roberts will ever have to advertise for boarders again," remarked Deuel after court had adjourned.

"But I wouldn't be so sure. I will not some day be compelled through bankruptcy proceedings."



MAILS FOR THE FLOOD SECTION.

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Official notices to the Post-Office Department show that the break on the Virginia and Ohio division of the Norfolk and Western caused by the floods extends for a distance of fifty miles from Williamson to Ennis. The branch line running from Goodwill to Bramwell is practically washed away. Special service will be arranged to take the mails into and out of the flood-stricken towns.

Chief Clerks Goodloe, from Washington, and Bayles, from Lynchburg, of the railway mail service, have gone in the flood district to make a report on the condition of the roads, and will wire a telegram from the Postmaster at Danville, W. Va., asking for immediate special postal service says such service probably will be necessary for three weeks.

BRICK-YARD MEN GO ON STRIKE.

They Are Marching on Other Plants Near Matteawan.

(Special to The Evening World.)

MATTEAWAN, N. Y., June 25.—One thousand brickyard men along the river are on strike. They want shorter hours and more pay.

A large body of them is moving to other yards in this section and trouble is threatened.

Atkins deputy sheriffs have been called out to protect property. The strikers are armed with cordwood, shovels and other makeshift weapons.

Bang went the revolver, and the sign shivered as a headlike bullet smashed its timbers. A flock of sheep belonging to Peter A. Hunyan stampeded from a nearby lot and with blood in his eye, their owner went for Constable Horan.

The stage, meantime, was slowly ever-handling the Baptist Church and A. Taylor was training his guns and getting the range. He got it as the stage came abreast of the church and opened fire. The first bullet struck the front door about the keyhole. It ripped through, and if the door was made of wood, it would have gone in the case an inch and a half thick and then piercing a light partition ended its career.

The stage door had been aroused by this time. A hasty meeting of the church members called for determined action. They found Peter A. Hunyan.

He took a 16-inch pistol of his own, with John Suydam and Jeremiah Johnson, started in pursuit of the stage.

It was found in Peru, Amherst, where the driver, Ed Rose, told where Taylor could be found. The posse grabbed him before he could train his gun on them, and the legal proceedings were the upshot.

Sixteen striking weavers at Paterson, N. J., were arrested to-day. They are former employees of the Paragon Silk Mill and most of them are girls. They are accused of annoying the non-union hands at the mill.

When arraigned in court they demanded a hearing, and this will be

the last day of the present month, and no matter what the conditions may be, Doctor Copeland announces positively that he will not charge fees after the date.

The practice is great as it cannot afford its indefinite maintenance.

Month's Medical and Treatment Offer Free.

It is a practice to offer free one month, and few realize how great an expense and sacrifice is entailed. All those who have been offered this liberal offer, however, are given full opportunity to understand that it will not be renewed or continued in any way after July 1, so that the concluding months of the year will be the best time to avail themselves of the offer.

The first month's treatment is given absolutely free, but all free or special offers of any kind in the Copeland practice.

All patients applying for treatment up to and including June 30, and all patients renewing treatment up to and including June 30, will receive one month's medicine and treatment free—that is, during one whole month they will be treated and supplied with medicine absolutely without pay or compensation of any kind.

Five days remain during which patients may take advantage of this offer. This opportunity positively closes all free or special offers in this practice.

MRS. WICKES

GETS DIVORCE.

Papers in Case Sealed
by Order of the
Court.

For the second time in his eventful career Thomas H. Wickes, Vice-President and General Manager of the combined Pullman and Wagner piano company, was divorced to-day. The decree is absolute. It was granted by Justice Quirk in the Supreme Court.

Col. Franklin Bartlett, who heard the testimony as referee, recommended that the prayer of Mrs. Wickes be granted.

All of the papers in the case are sealed, and the purpose of the evidence is not known. Of course there is but one ground in this State for an absolute divorce.

This action to-day completes a matrimonial and legal record in the Wickes family that has few duplicates.

The father has been twice divorced, and rumor in Chicago, where he makes his home, has it that he is about to marry again. His daughter, Florence Lillian, stopped living with her husband two weeks and secured a divorce. She is now on the stage. Her son Harry practically eloped with a Kansas City girl. Another daughter is living happily with her husband in St. Louis.

Thomas H. Wickes started his career in East St. Louis. He married first in 1871 while a poor man. Shortly after he removed to Chicago, became the protege of George M. Pullman and has become rich.

He was sued for divorce by his first wife in Chicago in 1891. She alleged extreme cruelty, specifying that he kicked her out of bed, slapped her face, and threw feed at her. The ink on the decree was scarcely dry before Mr. Wickes took to wife Clara, a girl, a handsome young Chicago woman. He married her in secret.

While the divorce suit was pending, the son Harry met Nannie Nelson, the prettiest girl in Kansas City.

A company of National Guardsmen, under command of Col. John Heppner, of Drywell, reached there yesterday with a party of ten, which are being sent into the flooded district. More tents are on the way from Huntington and other points.

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